

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims Please amend claims 1-7, withdraw claims 8-9, and add new claims 10-18 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A purified 16S rDNA- comprising the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
2. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ A purified oligonucleotide probe which comprises part of the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the part of the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 is a region specific to the *Psychrobacter pacificensis* NIBH P2K6 strain.
3. (Currently amended) The purified oligonucleotide probe according to claim 2 wherein said part of the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 comprises the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.
4. (Currently amended) The purified oligonucleotide probe according to claim 2 or 3 for detecting or identifying at least one bacterium selected from *Psychrobacter pacificensis*[[,]] and/or *Psychrobacter glaci*~~*noeola*~~ *glacincola*. ~~and analogs thereof.~~
5. (Currently amended) A method for detecting or identifying at least one bacterium selected from *Psychrobacter pacificensis*[,] and/or *Psychrobacter glaci*~~*noeola*~~ *glacincola*[[,]] ~~and analogs thereof, using~~ comprising obtaining the purified 16S rDNA of *Psychrobacter pacificensis*, obtaining an a purified oligonucleotide probe comprising part of the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 wherein the part of the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 is a region specific to the *Psychrobacter pacificensis* NIBH P2K6 strain, and permitting the probe to hybridize.
6. (Currently amended) The purified oligonucleotide probe according to claim 2 or 3 for specifically detecting or identifying a bacterium belonging to *Psychrobacter pacificensis*.

7. (Currently amended) A method for specifically detecting or identifying a bacterium belonging to *Psychrobacter pacificensis*, ~~using~~ comprising obtaining the purified 16S rDNA of *Psychrobacter pacificensis*, obtaining an a purified oligonucleotide probe comprising part of the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 wherein the part of the base sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 is a region specific to the *Psychrobacter pacificensis* NIBH P2K6 strain, and permitting the probe to hybridize.
8. (Withdrawn) *Psychrobacter pacificensis*, which is aerobic, gram-negative, nonmotile, colorless, non-sporulating and oxidase-positive.
9. (Withdrawn) The bacterium belonging to *Psychrobacter pacificensis* according to claim 8 wherein the bacterium is *Psychrobacter pacificensis* NIBH P2K6 (FERM BP-7106).
10. (New) The purified oligonucleotide probe according to claim 2, wherein the region specific to the *Psychrobacter pacificensis* NIBH P2K6 strain comprises nucleotide Nos. 458 to 476 of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
11. (New) The purified oligonucleotide probe according to claim 2, wherein the probe is 10-50 bp in size.
12. (New) The purified oligonucleotide probe according to claim 11, wherein the probe is 15-25 bp in size.
13. (New) The method of claim 5 wherein the region specific to the *Psychrobacter pacificensis* NIBH P2K6 strain of the purified oligonucleotide probe comprises nucleotide Nos. 458 to 476 of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
14. (New) The method of claim 5 wherein the purified oligonucleotide probe is 10-50 bp in size.

15. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein the purified oligonucleotide probe is 15-25 bp in size.
16. (New) The method of claim 7 wherein the region specific to the *Psychrobacter pacificensis* NIBH P2K6 strain of the purified oligonucleotide probe comprises nucleotide Nos. 458 to 476 of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
17. (New) The method of claim 7 wherein the purified oligonucleotide probe is 10-50 bp in size.
18. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein the purified oligonucleotide probe is 10-50 bp in size.